

CONGRATULATORY REMARKS TO THE INTEGRITY LODGE NO. 79 OF THE ORDER OF ITALIAN SONS AND DAUGHTERS OF AMERICA'S 65TH ANNIVERSARY

**HON. RON KLINK**

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, July 26, 2000*

Mr. KLINK. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to the Integrity Lodge No. 79 of the Order of Italian Sons and Daughters of America on the occasion of its 65th anniversary.

The Integrity Lodge No. 79 was founded in 1935 by Gabriel Falleroni and received its charter on March 31, 1935. Integrity Lodge No. 79, which began with approximately 60 members, now serves as a cultural resource for hundreds of Italian-Americans. It has been a bastion for unity for all members of the Italian-American community in Allegheny County.

The Lodge has been housed in the same location, Mile Lock Lane, since 1951, where it continues to hold its weekly meetings up to this day. Dedicated to promoting ideals of good citizenship and brotherly love, it is committed, and has been from the very beginning in 1935, to furthering the principles of liberty, unity and duty among the community.

Western Pennsylvania was fortunate to receive its share of the western European settlers who immigrated to the United States in the early 1900's, many of whom were Italian immigrants. Due to the large number of Italian immigrants, western Pennsylvania was exposed to a wonderful new culture and was able to reap its benefits with the help of organizations such as Lodge No. 79. For years, members of the Integrity Lodge promoted Italian heritage by introducing all aspects of Italian culture to the community, including Italian games such as bocce. Let it be noted that members of the Lodge were very proficient in bocce and were extremely enthusiastic participants in the game. Members of the Lodge were such avid players that they eventually created their own Bocce League. Through the work of its current president, Mrs. Greco, and many others at Integrity Lodge No. 79, the emphasis on Italian culture and traditions continues to flourish.

Integrity Lodge is known throughout Allegheny County as not just an Italian-American organization, but as an outstanding member of the community. Since its conception, the Lodge has taken an active part in civic and community functions. It has been noted for its generous contributions to several charitable organizations in Allegheny County.

And so it is with great pleasure that I ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating Integrity Lodge No. 79 of the Order of Italian Sons and Daughters of America, past and present, on the celebration of its first 65 years, with best wishes for the next 65, and beyond.

ON THE DEDICATION OF RED ARROW PARK TO THE MEMORY OF THE FAMED RED ARROW DIVISION

**HON. BART STUPAK**

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, July 26, 2000*

Mr. STUPAK. Mr. Speaker, 83 years ago in July, National Guard units from Michigan and Wisconsin were formed into the 32nd Division. These units traced their heritage back to Spanish American War, with a few even dating back to the famed Iron Brigade, a veteran unit of Civil War fighting that was so terribly decimated on the first day of the Gettysburg battle.

The 32nd Division would soon earn its designation as the Red Arrow Division in major fighting in major offensives in World War I. It was reactivated during World War II and sent to the South Pacific, where the unit took part in six major engagements.

The Red Arrow Division was among the first units serving occupation duty in Japan, and was reactivated again as a result of the Berlin Crisis in 1961.

As a result of army reorganization, the unit now carrying the famed designation is no longer a division but instead is a mechanized brigade, the 32nd Infantry "Red Arrow" Brigade.

Mr. Speaker, while this history of the famed "Red Arrow" unit is available to anyone with a computer and access to the Internet, an important part of the Red Arrow history was lost for many years.

In 1945 the city of Marinette, Wisconsin, the twin city of my home town of Menominee, Michigan, named a beautiful piece of shoreline Red Arrow Park in honor of the fighting unit in which so many of its sons had served. This honor extended to soldiers from Upper Michigan, as well—men like my father-in-law, Ken Olson, from Escanaba, or the late Fred Matz, an honored veteran from Menominee.

But the community forgot where the name came from. Red Arrow Park was just another park—an attractive one and a great place to launch a fishing boat or hold a family reunion—but a park whose heritage had been lost.

On July 30 this situation will be remedied. In a special ceremony spearheaded by local veteran Richard J. Boye of Menominee, the community will dedicate a monument that firmly links the Red Arrow combat unit to Red Arrow Park.

This event will greatly enhance the community value of the park, Mr. Speaker. Red Arrow Park will remain an important place where families can gather in peace and freedom, where children can run and play, cooled by the breezes of Green Bay. Now, however, they will be reminded of the many residents of northern Wisconsin and Upper Michigan who served in the Red Arrow Division in two great wars and the Cold War to preserve peace and freedom.

I thank our veterans for their years of service, and I especially thank our local veterans who organized the July 30 dedication. Their efforts today in setting up this beautiful monument will help future generations remember all their comrades who have served so well.

INTERNATIONAL RESERVE POLICE OFFICER ASSOCIATION EXCHANGE PROGRAM

**HON. JOE KNOLLENBERG**

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, July 26, 2000*

Mr. KNOLLENBERG. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and commend the International Reserve Police Officer Association Exchange Program. This program provides a unique opportunity for reserve police officers from American cities and towns to share information and go on patrol with their counterparts in other nations. The Association allows for the open exchange of reserve policing concepts between countries and between individual reserve officers.

This year marks the fifth year of the International Reserve Police Officer Association exchange program. Their 2000 international conference will be held in the United Kingdom. Officers from my home state of Michigan representing the Oakland County Sheriff's Department, Waterford Township and the City of Dearborn will visit Wales and England in August. The reserve police officers will patrol with both regular and special officers of the South Wales Constabulary, the Metropolitan Police and the City of London. A formal conference will be held on August 31 at New Scotland Yard.

I wish to extend to each officer, from both America and the United Kingdom, my sincere appreciation for their efforts in strengthening the bond of friendship and professionalism among reserve police officers. These individuals risk life and limb every day by volunteering their services to the public. Their dedication and hard work in protecting the public are to be enthusiastically saluted.

ON THE INTRODUCTION OF THE COMMUNITY ACCESS TO HEALTH CARE ACT OF 2000

**HON. GENE GREEN**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, July 26, 2000*

Mr. GREEN of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of the Community Access to Health Care Act of 2000, legislation I am introducing to help our states and communities deal with the crisis of the uninsured.

Over 44 million Americans do not have health insurance and this number is increasing by over a million persons a year. Most of the uninsured are working people and their children—nearly 74 percent are families with full-time workers. Ten percent of the uninsured are in families with at least one part-time worker. Low income Americans, those who earn less than 200% of the federal poverty level or \$27,300 for a family of three, are the most likely to be uninsured.

Texas is a leader nationally in the number of uninsured, ranking second only to Arizona. About 4 million persons, or 26.8 percent of our non-elderly population, are without insurance.

The uninsured and under-insured tend to be more expensive to care for. They fall through the health care cracks. They put off going to a doctor until it is too late—and then they go